In the claims

1. (original) A method of increasing the bioavailability of azithromycin, comprising co-administering, to a mammal in need of such treatment, a combination of azithromycin and a p-gp inhibitor.

2. (original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said azithromycin and p-gp inhibitor are each administered in an amount such that the combination is antimicrobially effective.

3. (original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said bioavailability increase is measured in blood serum.

4. (original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said p-gp inhibitor and azithromycin are co-administered separately.

5. (original) A method as defined in claim 4, wherein said p-gp inhibitor and azithromycin are co-administered by different routes.

6. (original) A method as defined in claim 5, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is administered orally and said azithromycin is administered intravenously.

7. (original) A method as defined in claim 4, wherein said azithromycin and said p-gp inhibitor are both administered orally.

8. (original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said p-gp inhibitor and azithromycin are co-administered together in a composition.

9. (original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is co-administered in an amount such that the oral bioavailability of azithromycin is increased by at least 25%.

10. (original) A method as defined in claim 9, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is co-administered in an amount such that the oral bioavailability of azithromycin is increased by at least 50%.

11. (original) A method as defined in claim 10, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is co-administered in an amount such that the oral bioavailability of azithromycin is increased by at least 75%.

12. (original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said increase is measured as an increase in AUC relative to dosing in the absence of a p-gp inhibitor.

13. (original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is a surfactant.

14, (original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is a polymer.

15. (currently amended) A method as defined in claim 14, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of block co-polymers of poly(propylene oxide) and poly(ethylene oxide).

16. (original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is itself a drug.

17. (original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said mammal is a human.

18. (original) A method of increasing the Cmax of azithromycin, comprising co-administering, to a mammal in need of such treatment, a combination of azithromycin and a p-gp inhibitor.

19. (original) A method as defined in claim 18, wherein said azithromycin and p-gp inhibitor are each administered in an amount such that the combination is antimicrobially effective.

20. (original) A method as defined in claim 18, wherein said Cmax increase is measured in blood serum.

21. (original) A method as defined in claim 18, wherein said p-gp inhibitor and azithromycin are co-administered separately.

22. (original) A method as defined in claim 21, wherein said p-gp inhibitor and azithromycin are co-administered by different routes.

23. (original) A method as defined in claim 22, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is administered orally and said azithromycin is administered intravenously.

24. (original) A method as defined in claim 21, wherein said azithromycin and said p-gp inhibitor are both administered orally.

25. (original) A method as defined in claim 18, wherein said p-gp inhibitor and azithromycin are co-administered together in a composition.

26. (original) A method as defined in claim 18, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is co-administered in an amount such that the Cmax of azithromycin is increased by at least 25%.

27. (original) A method as defined in claim 26, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is co-administered in an amount such that the Cmax of azithromycin is increased by at least 50%.

28. (original) A method as defined in claim 27, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is co-administered in an amount such that the Cmax of azithromycin is increased by at least 75%.

29. (original) A method as defined in claim 18, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is a surfactant.

30. (original) A method as defined in claim 18, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is a polymer.

31. (currently amended) A method as defined in claim 30, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of block co-polymers of poly(propylene oxide) and poly(ethylene oxide).

32. (original) A method as defined in claim 18, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is itself a drug.

33. (original) A method as defined in claim 18, wherein said mammal is a human.

34. (original) A method of increasing the concentration of azithromycin in a cell or a tissue, comprising co-administering, to a mammal in need of such treatment, a combination of azithromycin and a p-gp inhibitor.

35. (original) A method as defined in claim 34, wherein said azithromycin and p-gp inhibitor are each administered in an amount such that the combination is antimicrobially effective.

36. (original) A method as defined in claim 34, wherein said p-gp inhibitor and azithromycin are co-administered separately.

37. (original) A method as defined in claim 36, wherein said p-gp inhibitor and azithromycin are co-administered by different routes.

38. (original)A method as defined in claim 37, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is administered orally and said azithromycin is administered intravenously.

39. (original) A method as defined in claim 34, wherein said azithromycin and said p-gp inhibitor are both administered orally.

40. (original) A method as defined in claim 34, wherein said p-gp inhibitor and azithromycin are co-administered together in a composition.

41. (original) A method as defined in claim 34, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is co-administered in an amount such that said concentration of azithromycin is increased by at least 25%.

42. (original) A method as defined in claim 41, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is co-administered in an amount such that said concentration of azithromycin is increased by at least 50%.

43. (original)A method as defined in claim 42, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is co-administered in an amount such that said concentration of azithromycin is

increased by at least 75%.

44. (original) A method as defined in claim 34, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is a surfactant.

45 (original) A method as defined in claim 34, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is a polymer.

46. (currently amended) A method as defined in claim 45, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of block co-polymers of poly(propylene oxide) and poly(ethylene oxide).

47. (original) A method as defined in claim 34, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is itself a drug.

48. (original) A method as defined in claim 34, wherein said mammal is a human.

49. (currently amended) A composition comprising azithromycin and a p-gp inhibitor, said p-gp inhibitor being present in an amount such that, following administration, the azithromycin has an oral bioavailability greater than 37%, provided said composition is non-topical.

50. (original) A composition as defined in claim 49, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is present in an amount such that said oral bioavailability of azithromycin is increased by at least 25%.

51. (original) A composition as defined in claim 50, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is co-administered in an amount such that the oral bioavailability of azithromycin is increased by at least 50%.

52. (original) A composition as defined in claim 51, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is co-administered in an amount such that the oral bioavailability of azithromycin is increased by at least 75%.

53. (original) A composition as defined in claim 49, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is a surfactant.

54. (original) A composition as defined in claim 49, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is a polymer.

55. (currently amended) A composition as defined in claim 54, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of block co-polymers of poly(propylene oxide) and poly(ethylene oxide).

56. (original) A composition as defined in claim 13, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is itself a drug.

57. (currently amended) A composition which increases the Cmax of azithromycin, comprising azithromycin and a p-gp inhibitor, provided said composition is non-topical.

58. (original) A composition as defined in claim 57, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is present in an amount such that said Cmax is increased by at least 25%.

59. (original) A composition as defined in claim 58, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is co-administered in an amount such that the Cmax of azithromycin is increased by at least 50%.

60. (original) A composition as defined in claim 59, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is co-administered in an amount such that the Cmax of azithromycin is increased by at least 75%.

61. (original) A composition as defined in claim 57, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is a surfactant.

62. (original) A composition as defined in claim 57, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is a polymer.

63. (currently amended) A composition as defined in claim 62, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of block co-polymers of poly(propylene oxide) and poly(ethylene oxide).

64. A composition as defined in claim 57, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is itself a drug.

65. (currently amended) A composition which increases the concentration of azithromycin in a cell or a tissue, comprising azithromycin and a p-gp inhibitor, provided said composition is non-topical.

66. (original) A composition as defined in claim 65, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is present in an amount such that said increase is at least 25%.

67. (original) A composition as defined in claim 66, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is co-administered in an amount such that said increase is at least 50%.

68. (original) A composition as defined in claim 67, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is co-administered in an amount such that said increase is at least 75%.

69. (original) A composition as defined in claim 65, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is a surfactant.

70. (original) A composition as defined in claim 65, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is a polymer.

71. (original) A composition as defined in claim 70, wherein said polymer is selected from block co-polymers of poly(propylene oxide) and poly(ethylene oxide).

72. (original) A composition as defined in claim 65, wherein said p-gp inhibitor is itself a drug.

73. (original) A kit comprising:

(1) a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising azithromycin, plus a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, in a first dosage form;

(2) a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising a compound which is a p-gp inhibitor, plus a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, in a second dosage form; and

(3) a container for containing said first and second dosage forms.

74. (original) A kit as defined in claim 73, adapted for administration to a human.

75. (original) A kit as defined in claim 73, further comprising directions for the administration of said compositions.